

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 SAB-01 EB-11 /120 W

----- 130711

R 270835Z JAN 74

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 752

INFO ZEVAMEMBASSY BEIRUT 419

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 55

BEIRUT PASS DAMASCUS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IZ, XF

SUBJECT: SADAT ENVOY'S VISIT TO IRAQ

1. PRESIDENT SADAT'S SPECIAL ENVOY MURAD GHALIB WAS RECEIVED BY FORMIN ABDUL BAQI ON JAN 21 AND BY CCC VICE CHAIRMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN ON JAN 22. HE GAVE SADDAM HUSSEIN SADAT'S LETTER TO BAQI AND DEPARTED JAN 23 WITHOUT SEEING BAKR. THIS WAS OBVIOUS PUBLIC SNUB SINCE BAKR RECEIVED CREDENTIALS OF THREE AMBASSADORS ON JAN 23.

2. EGYPTIAN COUNSELLOR BARAKA TOLD ME BAKR HAD REFUSED TO

RECEIVE PHALIB BECAUSE SADAT HAD NOT RECEIVED BAKR ENVOY IZZAT AD-FOURI WHO WENT TO CAIRO IMMEDIATELY AFTER CEASE-FIRE.

GHALIB TOLD SADDAM AND ABDUL BAQI THAT THAT WAS GOI

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RIGHT, BUT IT WOULD WORK AGAINST IRAQ BECAUSE PHALIB WAS SEEKING NOTHING FROM GOI AND ONLY OFFERING COURTESY

OF INFORMING GOI OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. GHALIB'S MAIN MESSAGE TO GOI WAS AS FOLLOWS: BASIC CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND IN MIDDLE EAST IN PARTICULAR. IRAQ CAN PLAY ROLE IN THESE CHANGES OR IT CAN REMAIN ISOLATED BY MAINTAINING ITS NEGATIVE, STERILE POSITION.. IRAQ WAS NEGLECTED DURING PAST MONTHS AND IT MADE NO DIFFERENCE IN COURSE OF EVENTS. THIS CAN CONTINUE TO BE CASE. IF, HOWEVER, GOP WANTS TO PLAY ROLE IT MUST PUT FORWARD SOME POSITIVE POSITIONS. IF IT DOESN'T AGREE WITH EGYPTIAN POSITIONS, THEN IT SHOULD OFFER ALTERNATIVES; E. G. WHAT WILL BE ATTITUDE TOWARD PALESTINIAN STATE? FORMIN ABDUL BAQI HAD AGREED BUT SAID HE WOULD SOON BE LEAVING AND HE WAS NOT SURE IF FOREIGN MINISTRY VIEWS WOULD BE LISTENED TO. SADDAM HUSSEIN HAD BEEN MORE DEFENSIVE.

4. BARAKA SAID SADDAM HUSUEIN HAD COMPLAINED THAT SAUDIS NOW INFILTRATING INTO EGYPT AND IRAQ DID NOT LIKE IT. GHALIB ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT PROPOSED THAT IRAQ SHOULD DO SAME THING. HE SAID SAUDIS INVESTING IN CABARETS AND RESIDENCES. HE SUGGESTED IRAQ INVEST IN FACORIES TO MAKE ITS PRESENCE FELT, BUT NOT JUST SIT BACK AND COMPLAIN.

5. ON DISENGAGEMENT SETTLEMENT IRAQIS HAD RAISED NO OBJECTION TO EGYPTIAN POSITION, BUT STRONGLY REITERATED THEIR VIEW THAT SINCE THERE WERE NO GUARANTEES THAT ISRAEL WOULD CONTINUE WITHDRAWAL, ARABS HAVE AGAIN BEEN TRICKED BY U.S. AND ZIONISTS.

6. ALTHOUGH BARAKA BELIEVES GHALIB MESSAGE HAD IMPACT

ON GOI, HE SAID NO FOLLOW-UP MEETING WAS PROPOSED.
LOWIE

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